

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company for Authorization to Sell Electric Distribution and Certain Transmission Facilities Serving the City of Patterson, the Community of Crows Landing, and Certain Adjacent Rural Areas to the Turlock Irrigation District Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 851 and For Approval of Service Area Agreement Under Public Utilities Code Section 8101.

Application 02-01-012
(Filed January 4, 2002)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING
REQUIRING PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY (PG&E)
TO NOTIFY CUSTOMERS OF THIS PROCEEDING**

Background

On January 4, 2002, PG&E filed this application, which seeks Commission authorization to (1) sell certain electric transmission and distribution facilities located in portions of Merced, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne Counties to Turlock Irrigation District (TID), (2) enter into a new service area agreement with TID (proposed service agreement), and (3) for related transactions.

Under the proposed service area agreement, TID would exclusively serve the eastern portion of its territory, the Don Pedro Zone. Westside Power Authority (WPA) would serve the Westside Zone,¹ but TID would operate the

¹ The Westside Zone includes the City of Patterson, the Community of Crows Landing and certain adjacent rural areas in a portion of western Stanislaus County.

electric distribution system for TID in this area. The proposed service area agreement would also change the northern boundaries of TID's service area.

Modesto Irrigation District (MOD) has filed a protest. In its protest, MOD contends that the proposed service area agreement between PG&E and TID would expand TID's service area into territory previously designated as MOD's service area pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 9610 and a 1933 agreement between MOD and TID.

If granted, this application would authorize TID to provide service to former PG&E and possibly MOD customers in the territory designated in the proposed service area agreement and could affect service to customers.

Order for Notice to Affected PG&E Customers

PG&E is ordered to mail a notice of the filing of this application by first-class mail to customers in the areas that TID would serve under the proposed service area agreement by no later than May 7, 2002. PG&E shall obtain advance approval from the Public Advisor's Office of the notice and the locations in which the application and other materials are available for public review. The notice shall include all of the following information:

- That this application has been filed with the Commission and a description of the transactions for which PG&E seeks Commission approval;
- A description of the areas in which customers would receive electric service from TID, rather than PG&E, if this application is approved;
- Any anticipated effects of this application on service to customers in these areas;

- Any anticipated costs or changes in rates for customers in these areas if this application were granted;
- Any anticipated effect of this application on public benefit and low-income programs in the areas proposed to be served by TID;
- That PG&E is seeking Commission authorization to allocate the gain on sale to its shareholders;
- That a copy of the application, a map which shows the proposed changes in service areas, and the negative declaration prepared by TID are available for public review at local PG&E offices in the affected portions of Stanislaus, Tuolumne, and Merced Counties, in local TID offices, local public libraries, and the Commission offices in San Francisco.
- That members of the public may obtain a copy of the application from PG&E, TID, or the Commission at a cost which does not exceed the reasonable cost of duplication and mailing;
- That an evidentiary hearing has been tentatively scheduled for June 3-6, 2002, beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the Commission Courtroom, State Office Building, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California;
- That members of the public who wish to participate in the proceeding or who have questions or comments should contact the Commission Public Advisor's Office by phone at (415) 703-2074 or by e-mail at public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov as soon as possible for further information.
- That persons with disabilities who need reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding should contact the Public Advisor's Office as soon as possible for assistance.
- Any other information required by the Public Advisor's Office.

A copy of this notice shall also be posted at local PG&E and TID offices and public libraries in an area which is accessible to the public.

IT IS SO RULED.

Dated April 24, 2002, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ MYRA J. PRESTIDGE

Myra J. Prestidge
Administrative Law Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have by mail this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Requiring Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) to Notify Customers of This Proceeding on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record. In addition, service was also performed by electronic mail.

Dated April 24, 2002, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ FANNIE SID

Fannie Sid

N O T I C E

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

The Commission's policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at (415) 703-2074 or TTY# 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.

A.02-01-012 TOM/sid